



Update on Smarter Balanced Assessment Development and Technology Activities

Presentation to EDCO Liaisons November 19, 2013

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Technology Update

- Technology Readiness Tool
- Smarter Balanced Secure Browser
- Network Bandwidth Requirements
- Role of K–12 High Speed Network
- Student Registration and CALPADS
- LEA Multidisciplinary Team



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Technology Readiness Tool

- The Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) generates school-level readiness reports for devices and network.
- TRT reports can be used to justify spending decisions.
- The reports allow state and counties to identify schools that have insufficient technology (December 13, 2013 consortium snapshot).



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Smarter Balanced Secure Browser

- Smarter Balanced Secure Browser software application installed on each student's computing device
- Updated version released at the beginning of each school year
- Field Test version made available Nov 19
 - For Windows, OS X Intel and PPC, Android (app)
 - Other systems: iPad (app), Linux, and Chromebook (app) availability forthcoming
- Need to uninstall Pilot Test version



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Smarter Balanced Secure Browser (cont.)

- Can be used to access Practice Test
 - Launch Secure Browser, click on “Training Test”
 - Required for text-to-speech and Braille
- Ensures test security (kiosk mode)
- Checks for list of “prohibited” applications at startup and during execution
- HTML 5 and JavaScript (no Flash Player or Java VM required)



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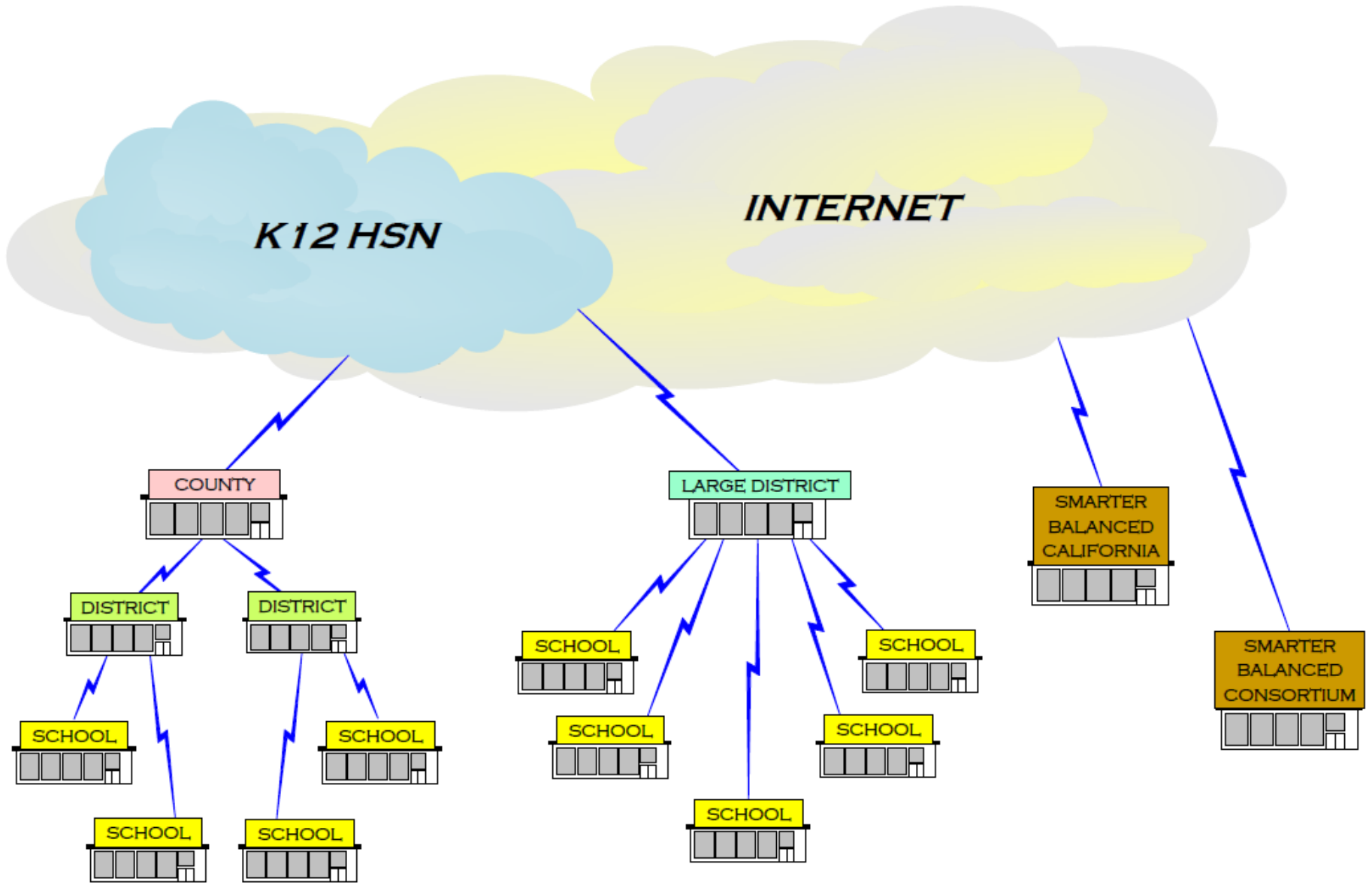
Network Bandwidth

- Estimated average for each student connected to system is 20K bps.
- Network activity may spike at startup and periodically during item pre-fetch.
- More devices may require more internal network hardware (i.e., wireless access points, access layer switches).
- More Internet bandwidth may be required from school to district, and/or district to county office.

KEY:

⚡ HIGH SPEED DATA
CIRCUIT

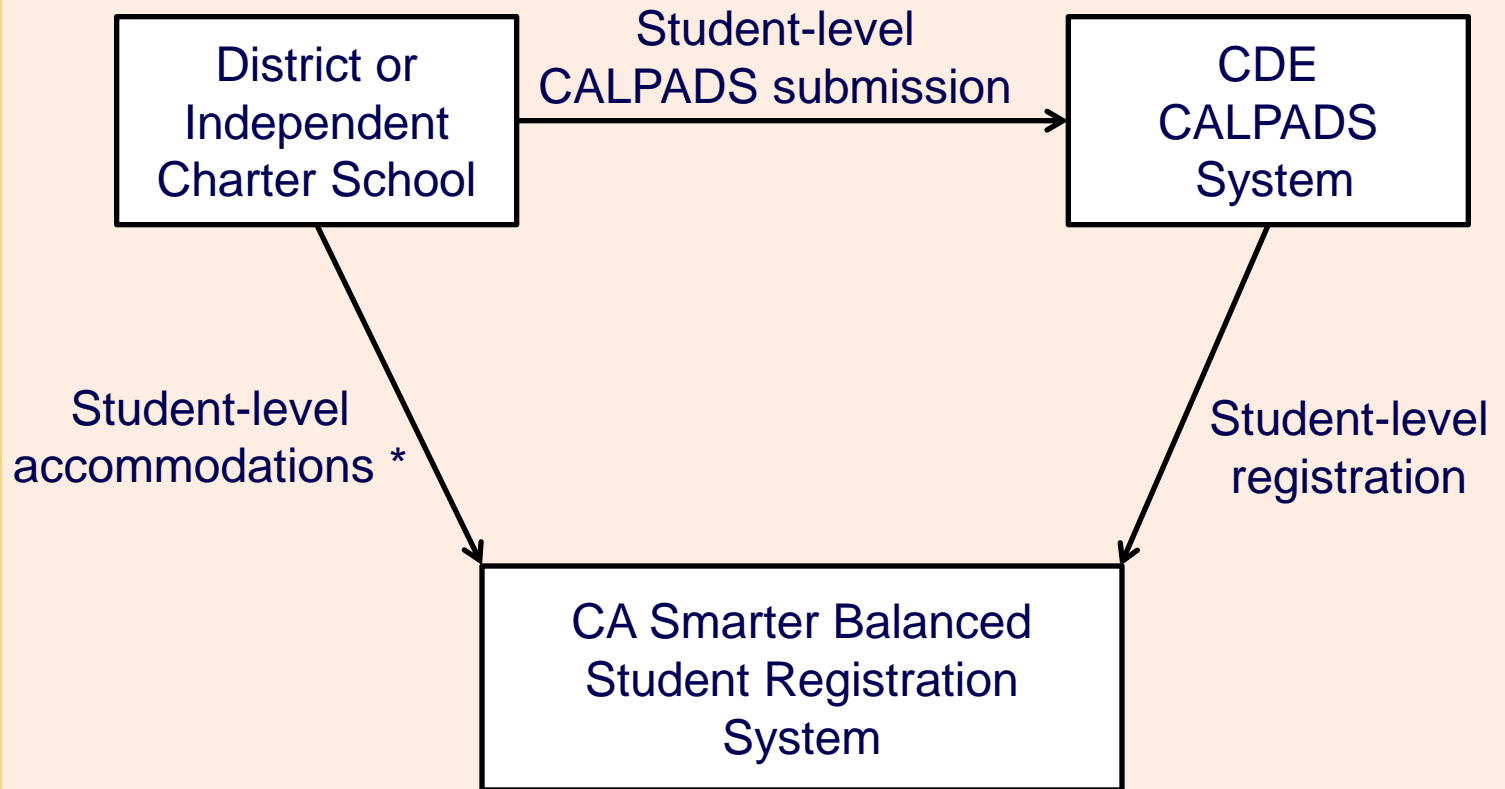
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
K12 HIGH SPEED NETWORK + SMARTER BALANCED DIAGRAM
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013





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Smarter Balanced Student Registration



*See *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines*, available at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/292859>.



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LEA Multidisciplinary Group

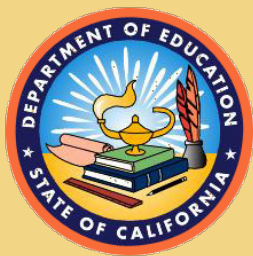
- Engage a multidisciplinary group at the district and school levels that can plan, recommend policies, develop procedures, and resolve issues before and after testing begins.
- Establish the goals for the group, milestones (with expected completion dates) for activities, and degree of authority.



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LEA Multidisciplinary Group (cont.)

- Review policies and procedures regarding access and use of technology.
 - Are there sufficient protections in place to ensure that equipment and bandwidth are allocated in accordance with the established priorities?
 - Are the points of contact established (and communicated) with the authority to resolve issues related to the use of technology during testing?
- Share practices with other districts and leverage the CDE and county offices when possible.



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Technology Resource Links

CDE Technology Readiness Web page

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/293317>

CDE-Authored TRT FAQs

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/sbac-ittr-faqs.asp>

*Smarter Balanced Technology Strategy Framework and
System Requirement Specifications* (soon to be updated)

and

TRT *Key Local Considerations* document

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/sbac-ittr-index.asp>

CDE e-mail: sbac-itreadiness@cde.ca.gov



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Smarter Balanced Spring 2014 Field Test

- Will take place March 18-June 6, 2014. Shorter windows within this time frame will be assigned to schools by the CDE and ETS.
- No paper-and-pencil version will be available.
- No student, school, or district score reports will be produced.
- Results will not be factored into any state or federal accountability calculations.



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Participation Requirements for the Spring 2014 Field Test

- **Grades 3–8:** All students are expected to participate.
- **Grades 9–10:** Only students selected for the scientific sample will participate.
- **Grade 11:** Only students selected for the scientific sample are expected to participate; all other students are encouraged to take the Field Test.
 - AB 484 requires that all grade 11 students have the option to participate in the Early Assessment Program.



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Resources for the Smarter Balanced Field Test

CDE Smarter Balanced Field Test Web Page

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterfieldtest.asp>

California Technical Assistance Center

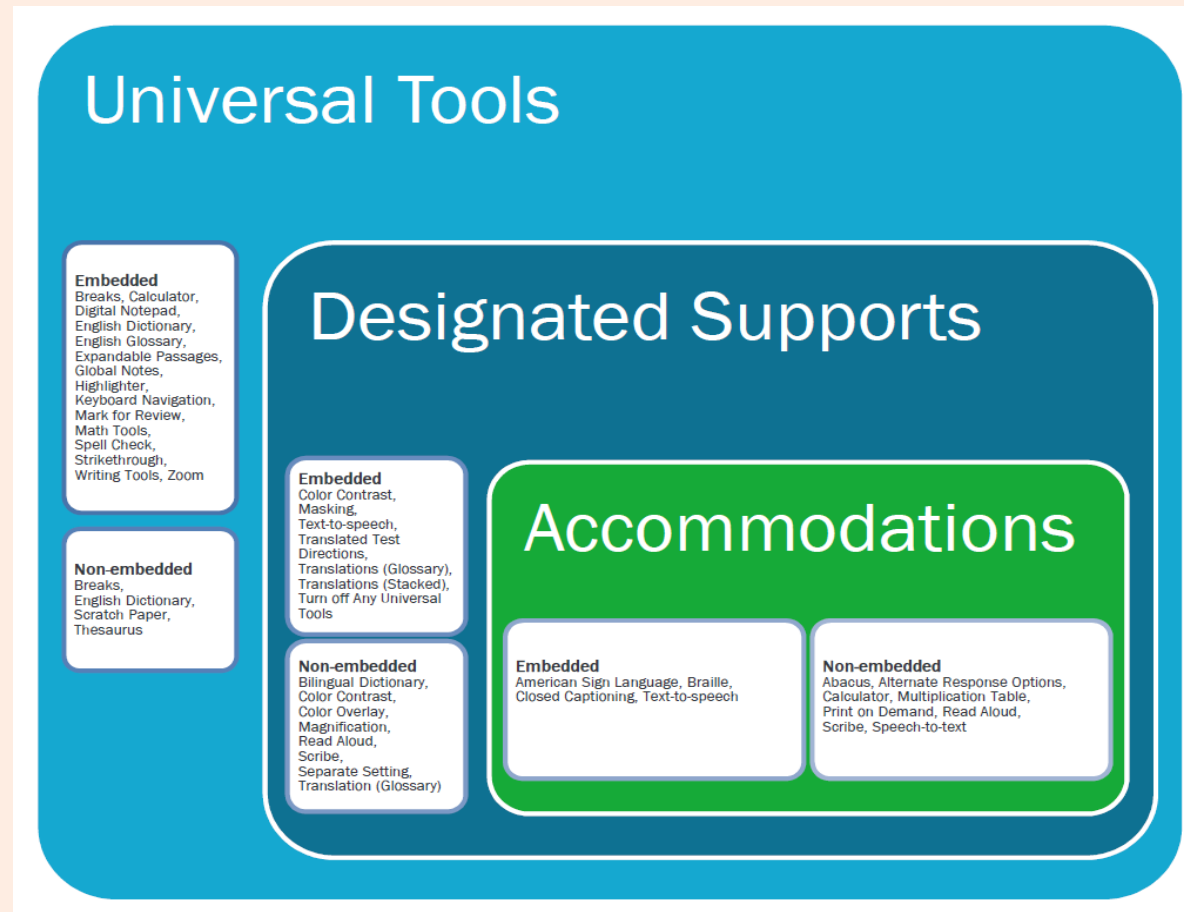
1-800-955-2954

caltac@ets.org

Smarter Balanced Field Test Browser

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/browsers/>

Conceptual Model Underlying the Smarter Balanced *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines*



Guidelines document can be accessed at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/access.asp>



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Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

- The interim assessments are expected to be available in fall 2014.
- Two types of interim assessments will be available:
 - Interim Comprehensive Assessment
 - Interim Assessment Blocks
- The same criteria are being used to develop the interim and summative assessment items.



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Summative Testing Windows for the 2014–15 Smarter Balanced Operational Tests

- Windows were approved by governing states on September 10, 2013.
- In **grades 3–8**, 66 percent of a school's instructional days must be completed before testing can begin. In a 180-day school year, 66 percent occurs after the 120th instructional day.
- In **grade 11**, 80 percent of a school's annual instructional days must be completed before testing can begin. In a 180-day school year, 80 percent occurs after the 144th instructional day.



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2014–15 Smarter Balanced Operational Tests (cont.)

- A state may establish more specific windows within the consortium-defined parameters.
- The CDE is expected to take regulations to the State Board in January to establish California-specific windows.



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Recent Informational Webinars for LEA Staff

- November 8—Introduction to the California Measurement of Academic Performance and Progress; STAR Legacy Exams Ordering and Pre-ID

Access to the archived Webinar is available at
<http://www.startest.org/workshop.html#materials>.

- November 14—Assessment and Accountability Update for Charter schools, hosted by the CDE Charter Schools Division

Access to the presentation is available at
http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cs/re/documents/newassessment_system.pdf



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Fall 2013 North/South Assessment and Accountability Information Meetings

- Presentation materials available at
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/infomeeting.asp>
 - PDF versions
 - PPT versions
 - Archived video presentations



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Save the Date!

- The next Smarter Balanced update for EDCO liaisons will be:

Wednesday, December 18

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Invitation will be sent later this week



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For Further Information

CDE Assessment Transition Office

sbac@cde.ca.gov

916-445-8517

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Web Site

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org>

CDE Smarter Balanced Web Page

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sbac/>